



U.S. Small Business Administration
New Jersey District Office
Two Gateway Center – 15th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Tel: 973-645-2434 Fax: 973-645-6265

Dear Friend of Small Business:

Did you know that **New Jersey** is home to approximately 600,000 small businesses? ***We are looking for just one of those small business owners to name as the New Jersey Small Business Person of the Year, our most sought after award.*** If you know an entrepreneur who has developed an outstanding business that shows **job creation, good profit and sales**, as well as someone who gives back to the community, then why not nominate that small business owner for this prestigious award? Please take a few moments to review the criteria on our Web site and submit your nomination.

The U.S. Small Business Administration is looking for outstanding small business owners and those individuals who have supported and advocated the cause of small business in New Jersey. Local winners will compete for not only the state award, but also for the national award.

In addition to the **Small Business Person of the Year**, we are also looking to honor those individuals who have contributed immeasurably to our Nation's progress and economic growth. To recognize those individuals, we are also soliciting nominations for the following awards: **Financial Services Champion of the Year, Home-Based Business Champion of the Year, Minority Small Business Champion of the Year, Small Business Exporter of the Year, SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Small Business Journalist of the Year, Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year, Women in Business Champion of the Year, and SBA Family-Owned Small Business of the Year.**

Each of the awards has different qualifications and criteria and they are contained in the enclosed Nominations Guidelines. Nominations should be sent by **November 15, 2005** to: Harry Menta, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration, Two Gateway Center – 15th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102.

The awards will be presented to the winners in the spring of 2006 at the **Ninth Annual New Jersey Small Business Conference** hosted by the **New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce**. If you have any questions about the awards program, please contact Harry Menta at (973) 645-6064 or via e-mail at harry.menta@sba.gov.

Sincerely,

James A. Kocsi

James A. Kocsi
District Director